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UNCLAS THE HAGUE 002063

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DRL FOR JOANNA LEVISON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL PARM PHUM IZ UK NL

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS SUPPORTS MASS GRAVES PROJECTS IN IRAQ

REF: A. SECSTATE 236766

1B. WITMER-LEVINSON EMAILS 8/12

11. (U) This is an action request. Please see para 3.

12. (SBU) The GoNL is supportive of the mass graves projects in Iraq outlined in reftel. PolOff met with Adri van Loopik, head of the MFA's Gulf States Section, on August 15 to review ref A requests. Per ref B, PolOff noted that if the Danes and Finns provide site-assessment teams as promised, the Dutch commitment for a site assessment team will likely be unnecessary. However, the USG needs Dutch support in the exhumation phase of the project. Van Loopik stated that the GoNL agrees in principle to provide support for the CPA's exhumation phase. He will contact the Ministry of the Interior's Catastrophic Identification Team (CIT) to confirm what personnel and resources it would be available to commit in September. According to van Loopik, the CIT, which has worked in the former Yugoslavia and Peru, previously expressed interest in assisting in Iraq.

13. (SBU) Action request: The GoNL would like information on the proposed personnel make-up of the exhumation phase teams, as well as what tools/resources will be required. Post kindly requests such information to be sent via email to witmerka@state.gov.

14. (SBU) Note: If the Danish and Finnish teams are unable to commit their site assessment teams, the GoNL will work to fulfill its previous commitment. Until provided in reftel, Van Loopik did not have specifications for a site-assessment team. He was therefore unable to provide a time frame for the mobilization of a Dutch site assessment team. Per ref B, the Dutch focus will now be on staffing an exhumation phase team. End Note.

SOBEL